

REMARKS

Applicants hereby traverse the current objections and rejections, and request reconsideration and withdrawal in light of the amendments and remarks contained herein. Claims 26 and 27 are indicated as having allowable material. Claims 17-32 are pending in this application.

Interview Summary

Applicants respectfully submit the following record of the telephone interviews that occurred during the week of 11 September 2006, under M.P.E.P. § 713.04.

The following persons participated in the interview: Examiner Kaplan and Applicants' attorney Michael A. Papalas, Registration Number 40,381. The Notice of Non-Compliance of 24 February 2006 and the Response of 23 March 2006 were discussed. The Response of 13 September 2006 was considered timely to allow prosecution to continue. Applicants thank the Examiner for the interviews.

Objection to the Specification

The specification stands objected to for informalities listed on page 2 of the Office Action. In response, Applicants have amended the specification in accordance with the suggestions provided on page 2 of the Office Action. Each identified instance has been corrected with a corresponding amendment. No new matter has been entered. Thus, Applicants believes that the objection to the specification has been overcome, and that this objection should be withdrawn.

Objection to the Drawings

The Examiner has objected to the drawings, specifically FIGURES 4B and 5B. In response, Applicants submit proposed drawing changes to FIGURE 4B and 5B, as suggested by the Examiner. Specifically, the corrections labeled 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 have been changed to 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5, respectively. No new matter has been entered. As each identified instance of informality has been corrected with a corresponding proposed amendment, Applicants believe that the objection to the drawings has been overcome, and that this objection should be withdrawn.

Objection to the Claims

Claims 18, 23, and 26-28 are objected to for informalities listed on page 3 of the Office Action. In response, Applicants have amended claims 18 and 26-28 in accordance with the suggestions provided on page 3 of the Office Action, and claim 21 has been amended to overcome the objection to claim 23. In claim 18, the word "circuit" has been inserted after "correction". With regard to claim 23, Applicants note that claim 23 depends from claim 22, which depends from claim 21, and claim 21 has been amended to depend from claim 20, which provides antecedent basis for the control logic. With regards to claims 26 and 27, the words "hot swaps" and "hot swapping" have been replaced with "switches" and "switching". With regard to claim 28, the word "corrected" has been replaced with "adjusted". Each identified instance of informality has been corrected with a corresponding amendment. The claims have been amended only for the purpose of resolving the cited informalities, and not for the purpose of narrowing their scope in the face of prior art. No new matter has been entered. As these amendments address the recited informalities, Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the objection of record.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 17-25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Specifically, the words "said converters" in claim 17 are asserted by the Office Action as lacking antecedent basis. The remaining claims are rejected as being dependent from a rejected base claim.

In response, Applicants have amended claim 17 to more accurately and precisely define the invention, by removing the output filter limitation. The claims have been amended only for the purpose of complying with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and not for the purpose of narrowing their scope in the face of prior art. No new matter has been entered. As each element of indefiniteness cited by the Office Action has been addressed with a corresponding amendment, Applicants respectfully request the rejection of claims 17-25 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph be withdrawn.

Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Claims 28, 29, and 32 rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeuchi (US '251) in view of Gegner (US '092) in further view of Philips et al. (US '023, hereinafter Philips).

Claim 30 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeuchi in view of Gegner in further view of Philips, in further view of Pendleton et al. (US '644, hereinafter Pendleton).

Claim 31 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Takeuchi in view of Gegner in further view of Philips, in further view of Stewart et al. (US '439, hereinafter Stewart).

Applicants note that this application is a continuation of 10/171,915, filed on June 14, 2002, which is a continuation of 09/940,973, filed on August 28, 2001, which is a divisional of 09/563,003, filed on April 29, 2000.

Thus, Takeuchi is an improper reference as its filing date is April 19, 2002. Similarly, Philips (with its earliest priority date of November 6, 2000), Pendleton (with its earliest priority date of May 7, 2001), and Stewart (with its earliest priority date of May 4, 2001) are also improper references.

Thus, the rejections of claims 28-32 should be withdrawn.

Conclusion

The Examiner is thanked for the indication that claims 26 and 27 include allowable subject matter.

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance.

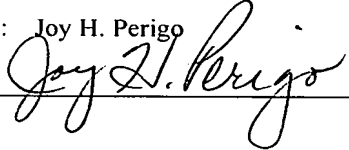
Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner call the below listed attorney if the Examiner believes that such a discussion would be helpful in resolving any remaining problems.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge Deposit Account No. 08-2025, under Order No. 10001445-4 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail, Label No. EV482745035US in an envelope addressed to: M/S Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P O Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Date of Deposit: January 19, 2007

Typed Name: Joy H. Perigo

Signature: 

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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Attachments – Replacement Sheets for Drawing Sheets 4 and 5